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4002-002624.TNT/bkp.396957v2

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

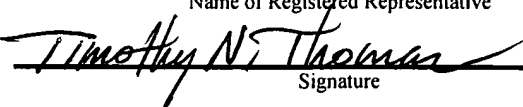
In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner
Hai H. Trieu	)	Brian E. Pellegrino
	)	
Serial No. 10/645,006	)	Group Art Unit 3738
	)	
Filed: August 21, 2003	)	Ref. No. 4002-2624/PC531.00
	)	
ALLOGENIC/XENOGENIC IMPLANTS	)	
AND METHODS FOR AUGMENTING	)	
OR REPAIRING INTERVERTERAL	)	
DISCS	)	May 24, 2006

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2006, please consider the following. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any additional fees which may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on	
May 24, 2006	
(Date of Deposit)	
Timothy N. Thomas	
Name of Registered Representative	
	
Signature	
May 24, 2006	
Date of Signature	